Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 12116 101017Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 ITC-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 PRS-01 //060 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: USITC OFFICIALS VISITS TO JAPAN

REF: (A) HART-WESTMORE TELECON AUG 9, (B) TOKYO 11953

1. IN VIEW OF LIKELIHOOD THAT NUMBER OF USITC SECTION 337 INVESTIGATIONS WILL INCREASE IN FUTURE, BRINGING USITC OFFICIALS TO JAPAN ON SHORT NOTICE (REF A) EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES THAT S.O.P. BE WORKED OUT FOR VISA APPLICATIONS. GIVEN GOJ DESIRE FOR "FORMAL REQUEST THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS" BEFORE VISAS WILL BE ISSUED TO USITC OFFICIALS INTENT ON CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS IN JAPAN, IT SEEMS TO US TWO PROCEDURES ARE POSSIBLE: A) USITC PROVIDES STATE DEPARTMENT WITH WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN AND THEN STATE SENDS DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO JAPANESE EMBASSY REQUESTING VISAS, WHILE NOTIFYING EMBASSY OF THIS ACTION; AND, B) EMBASSY REQUESTS VISAS IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO FOREIGN OFFICE, BASED ON TELEGRAPHIC REQUEST FROM USITC VIA STATE.

2. SECOND NORTH AMERICA DEVISION HAS TOLD US INFORMALLY EITHER OF THESE PROCEDURES IS PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE. WE RECOMMEND FORMER PROCEDURE AS MOST EXPEDITIOUS. IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 12116 101017Z

NOT ONLY CUTS OUT A STEP THAT WOULD CAUSE DELAY DUE TO TIME DIFFERENCES, BUT GOJ CAN DIRECTLY QUERY WASHINGTON AGENCIES IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS.

3. FYI: WE HAVE ARGUED ABOVE PROCEDURES ARE UNNECES-SARILY CUMBERSOME, BUT FOREIGN OFFICE CONTINUES TO RE-GARD USITC INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN AS A POLICY QUESTION INVOLVING SOVEREIGNTY OF JAPAN. VISITS BY USITC OFFICIALS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT AND FULLY JUSTIFIED BEFORE REQUESTS FOR VISAS ARE INITIATED. IN SUCH CASES, THE EMBASSY STANDS READY, AS BEFORE, TO ASSIST IN EVERY WAY TO ENABLE USITC MISSIONS TO COMPLETE THEIR WORK IN JAPAN AS SMOOTHLY AS POSSIBLE. MANSFIELD

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